GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3969
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002
TEXTILE POLICY TO PROTECT SMALL POWERLOOM OWNERS
SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring a number of changes in the existing national textile policy to suit the interest of small powerloom owners in the country;

(b) if so, the details of changes the Government propose to make in the existing textile policy;

(c) whether the yarn quota allotted by the Government to the powerloom sector is being misused by large mills and there is no proper safeguard to powerloom owners; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of powerloom owners in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL)

(a) & (b) Recognizing that the major problems facing the decentralized powerloom sector are mainly, technological obsolescence; small size of units with fragmentation; lack of credit availability; poor marketability; and low level of skill with poor quality consciousness, the National Textile Policy proposes to focus on its technology upgradation, with a clustering of facilities to achieve optimum levels of production. It also calls for modernisation of Powerloom Service Centres and testing facilities, and welfare schemes for ensuring a healthy and safer working environment for the workers.

In pursuance of policy, government has started the following programmes:

i) Programme for induction of 50,000 shuttleless and for 2.5 lakh semi automatic and automatic looms in the decentralized powerloom sector, with incentives provided through the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS);

ii) Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) under which cost of borrowing capital for modernisation of thetextile and jute industries, including powerloom industry is reduced;

iii) Modernization of Powerloom Service Centers (PSC) by the upgradation of their looms so as to provide training and skills to powerloom weavers to operate modernized equipment;

iv) Computer Aided Design Centres in Powerloom Service Centers to provide value addition through design inputs into powerloom production.

In addition a welfare scheme for Insurance cover is being implemented.

(c) & (d) There is no yarn quota or yarn allotment for the decentralized powerloom sector.